

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Original) Apparatus for aligning signals in a television receiver comprising:
  - a control signal source;
  - a mute circuit coupled to said control signal source; and
  - a video level circuit coupled to said control signal source, where a first portion of a control signal from said control signal source controls said mute circuit and a second portion of said control signal controls said video level circuit.
2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said control signal source comprises a digital-to-analog converter.
3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the control signal source further comprises a microprocessor coupled to said digital-to-analog converter through a bus.
4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a gain control loop, wherein said gain of said gain control loop is controlled by said video level circuit.
5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 4 wherein said mute circuit is coupled to said gain control loop.
6. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 2 wherein an input to said digital-to-analog converter has multiple bits and ~~less than one bit~~ a predetermined number of bits is used to control said mute circuit and a remaining range of the analog-to-digital converter is used to control the video level circuit.

7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said video level circuit comprises:

- a buffer circuit;
- a DC level shifting circuit coupled to said buffer circuit.

8. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said mute circuit, when activated, deactivates an IF AGC circuit.

9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said mute circuit, when activated, deactivates both an IF AGC circuit and an RF AGC circuit.

10. (Original) A method of providing signal alignment in a television receiver comprising the steps of:

- providing an IF AGC loop having a level shifting circuit and an IF AGC mute circuit; and

- altering the DC level of a video signal within said IF AGC loop in response to a first portion of a control signal; and

- deactivating said IF AGC loop in response to a second portion of said control signal.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10 further comprising the step of:

- generating said control signal from a multi-bit digital signal, where ~~less than one bit~~ a predetermined number of bits is used to control said mute circuit and a remaining number of bits are used to control said level circuit.

12. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein said deactivating step further comprises deactivating an RF AGC loop.